

SENATE RESOLUTION 131
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to commend James Micah Guster for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, James Micah Guster is one such individual who has distinguished himself in his role as a legislative intern for Senator Thelma Harper; Micah's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Tennessee State University (TSU), Micah Guster achieved extraordinary academic success, graduating *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Guster participated in the National Student Exchange Program while in attendance at Tennessee State University and utilized his many skills and abilities at Florida International University in Miami, Florida; and

WHEREAS, spending his summers studying in the Charles B. Rangel Summer Enrichment Program at Howard University in Washington, D.C., Micah Guster participated in the Gilder Lehrman History Scholars Program; and

WHEREAS, committed to academic excellence, Micah Guster was a member of the Tennessee State University Honors Program and the Florida International University Honors College; and

WHEREAS, making the Dean's List at Tennessee State University and Florida International University, Micah distinguished himself as a member of the Golden Key Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Micah Guster has received numerous awards, including the 2002-2003 FIU Intramural Sports Rookie Official of the Year and the TSU Honors Program Certificate of Excellence for Academic Performance; he was named the TSU Honors Program Mentee of the Year, Most Friendly by TLIP interns, Caucus Chairman by the CBCF interns, and TSU Honors Program Mentee of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Micah Guster was nominated for the National Dean's List, Alpha Kappa Mu, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Gamma Delta, and he received invitations from the U.S. Department of State and Agriculture to work as an intern in Guyana and as a researcher in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his academic excellence and talent, Mr. Guster has received numerous scholarships, including the Chevrolet Scholarship, the Phi Beta Sigma Scholarship, 100 Black Men of Chattanooga Scholarship, the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Scholarship, Rhodes Scholarship, the Marshall Scholarship, and the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Micah Guster has donated countless hours of service as President of the Life Givers Campus Ministry, Youth Leader for the Miami Temple, Hillcrest, and Berean Seventh Day Adventist Churches, Mentor for the Tennessee State University Honors Program, Historian and Publicity Chair for Florida International University's University Park Apartments, Secretary for Hale Residence Hall, and Director of Public Relations for Tennessee State University Honors Council; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexities of Tennessee state government and to further his studies, Mr. Guster brought his many abilities and singular expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2006 session of the One Hundred Fourth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Micah Guster previously served this august body during 2005 as a legislative intern for the Senate General Welfare, Health, and Human Resources Committee; and

WHEREAS, Micah Guster has also served as an Intern with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) in Washington, D.C., where he worked for United States

Representative Cynthia McKinney; he was one of 43 applicants selected from an applicant pool of over 200; and

WHEREAS, evincing an unflagging commitment to excellence in every endeavor, Mr. Guster has worked assiduously during this legislative session to promote the estimable principles of democracy, fairness, and equity in the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, an intern of uncommon devotion and singular talent, Micah Guster has distinguished himself as an exceptional individual with the utmost integrity and character; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Guster epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2006 legislative session, Micah Guster has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Guster has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend James Micah Guster for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Thelma Harper and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.